## **Chapter Ten**

## **Externalities**

# 一、名词解释(SOLUTIONS TO Key Concepts):

#### 1. externality

外部性主要用来衡量单个消费者或者生产者的行为对社会上其他人福利的影响。经济外部性是经济主体(包括厂商或个人)的经济活动对他人和社会造成的非市场化的影响。分为正外部性和负外部性。正外部性是某个经济行为个体的活动使他人或社会受益,而受益者无须花费代价,负外部性是某个经济行为个体的活动使他人或社会受损,而造成外部不经济的人却没有为此承担成本。从定义中可以得到以下理解:1.外部性是一种人为的活动2.外部性应该是在某项活动的主要目的以外派生出来的影响3.外部性包括对生态环境等与社会福利有关的一切生物或非生物影响。所以,外部性的存在造成社会脱离最有效的成产状态,使市场经济体制不能很好的实现其优化资源配置的基本功能。

#### 2. internalizing an externality

外部性的内在化:通过改变激励,从而使得生产者或者消费者考虑到自己行为的外部效应。即通过制度安排经济主体经济活动所产生的社会收益或社会成本,转为私人收益或私人成本,是技术上的外部性转为金钱上的外部性,在某种程度上强制实现原来并不存在的货币转让。典型的办法有:1.征税与补贴;对负的外部性征收税负,正的外部性给予补贴。征税可以抑制产生负的外部性的经济活动;补贴可以激励产生正的外部性的经济活动。2.企业合并,这样原来别的企业产生的外部性现在就可以转化为新的公司的内部问题来处理,合并的新的公司必然会实行使得公司利润最大化的行为,从而解决原来的外部性问题。

#### 3. Coase theorem

科斯定理:如果私人各方可以无成本地就资源配置进行协商,则私人市场自身就能解决外部性问题,从而有效地进行资源配置。这是以经济学家罗纳德、科斯的名字命名的,因为他最早提出了这个理论。更通俗地讲,我们可以将其理解为:如果交易费用为零,不管产权初始如何安排,当事人之间的谈判都会导致那些财富最大化的安排,即市场机制会自动达到帕雷托最优。我们需要下面两点:第一,交易成本为零。交易成本指外部性当事人建立交易关系,进行讨价还价、订立契约并督促执行所花费的成本。交易成本为零,意味着交易中上述几个方面的活动可以无成本地完成,这是新古典经济学隐含的一个基本假设。科斯文中,交易成本被称作"运用价格机制所需的成本"。第二,产权的初始界定清晰,即外部性问题所涉及的公共权利的归属明确,至于具体归属于哪一方当事人,则没有给予明确限制。

#### 4. transaction costs

交易成本指的是消费者和生产者各方在协议和遵守协议过程中所发生的成本。正如我们个概念当中说提到的,交易成本可以理解为当事人建立交易关系,进行讨价还价、订立契约并督促执行所花费的成本。科斯定理中的交易成本为零只是一种理想的情况,所以通常私人市场自身并达不到帕累托最优的状态,需要其它的方法来解决市场外部性的问题。

#### 5. pigovian tax

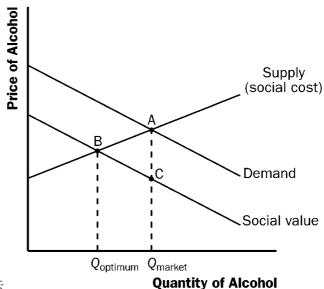
指的是为了纠正负外部性影响而征收的税收。它最早由英国经济学家阿瑟·庀古提出,

他在对由污染等因素产生的外部性进行分析时,建议对污染者征税,通过征税使排污者带来的外部成本内部化,从而可以降低污染物的排放水平,实现整个社会福利的最大化。

## 二、问答题(PROBLEMS and Applications):

- 1. Contributions to charitable organizations are deductible under the federal income tax. In what way does this government policy encourage private solutions to externalities?
- 答:慈善组织在解决这方面的外部性上比政府更为有效率,从而它通过对捐款的免税,使得慈善组织更多地来解决这种外部性问题来提高了效率。就个人的捐款来说,一般个人获得的收益小于其付出的捐款成本,形成了慈善捐款的正的外部性与捐款数量的不足,而政府的税收减免在一定程度上则减轻了这种外部性。
- 2. Ringo loves playing rock and roll music at high volume. Luciano loves opera and hates rock and roll. Unfortunately, they are next-door neighbors in an apartment building with paper-thin walls.
- a. What is the externality here?
- b. What command-and-control policy might the landlord impose? Could such a policy lead to an inefficient outcome?
- c. Suppose the landlord lets tenants do whatever they want. According to the Coase theorem, how might Ringo and Luciano reach an efficient outcome on their own? What might prevent them from reaching an efficient outcome?
- 答: a.这里的外部性是瑞格的高音量摇滚乐会影响到卢西阿诺,但瑞格播放音乐的时候并不会考虑到卢西阿诺的具体感受。
- b.房东可能会命令租房的人音乐的音量必须控制在一定限度,或者在晚上几点以后就不能再播放音乐,但这有可能引起无效率的结果。我们可以举两个例子,要是卢西阿诺对摇滚乐的憎恨程度没有瑞格对摇滚乐的喜欢程度高从而存在改善两人的境况的可能;或者说卢西阿格不在家播放摇滚乐对他没有影响,但瑞格仍然不能播放音乐的话,这种政策就是一种无效率的政策。
- c.假如房东允许房客做自己的事,则两人通过协商,就可以改善两人的境遇。例如瑞格可以支付给卢西阿诺一定的费用从而自己可以播放音乐,或者在卢西阿诺不在房间的时候播放音乐,这样两人的福利水平都能够得到提高。然而根据科斯定理,这只有在两人相互协商起来比较容易,不存在成本的情况下才成立。讨价还价的成本太高的话就会妨碍他们实现有效率的结果。
- 3. It is rumored that the Swiss government subsidizes cattle farming, and that the subsidy is larger in areas with more tourist attractions. Can you think of a reason why this policy might be efficient?
- 答:这种政策使旅游业的外部性内在化。旅游者越多的地方,当地的养牛业就会受到不良的影响。为了将养牛业维持在一个合意的水平上,瑞士政府给予其补贴,而且,越是受旅游业的负外部性影响大的地区,补贴越多,所以这种政策是有效率的。

- 4. Great consumption of alcohol leads to more motor vehicle accident and, thus, imposes costs on people who do not drink and drive.
- a. Illustrate the market for alcohol, labeling the demand curve, the social-value curve, the supply curve, the social-cost curve , the market equilibrium level of output , and the efficient level of output.
- b. On your graph, shade the area corresponding to the deadweight loss of the market equilibrium. (Hint: The deadweight loss occurs because some units of alcohol are consumed for which the social cost exceeds the social value.) Explain.



答: a.由题意,图形如右所示

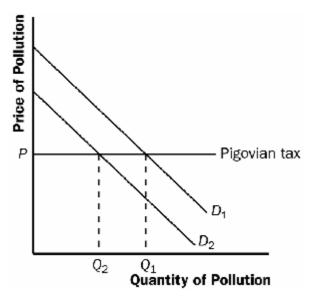
其均衡数量为 Qmarket, 同时有效率的社会产量却是 Qoptimum.

- b. 如上图所示,社会最有效率的产量是  $Q_{optimum}$ .因此,在这以后的生产数量上社会成本都超过了社会收益,超过的具体数量即为成本曲线和社会价值曲线之间的垂直距离,故总的无谓损失的数量为三角形 ABC 的面积。
- 5. Many observers believe that the levels of pollution in our economy are too high.
- a. If society wishes to reduce overall pollution by a certain amount, why is it efficient to have different amount of reduction at different firms?
- b. Command-and-control approaches often rely on uniform reductions among firms. Why are these approaches generally unable to target the firms that should undertake bigger reductions?
- c. Economists argue that appropriate Pigovian taxes or tradable pollution rights will result in efficient pollution reduction. How do these approaches target the firms that should undertake bigger reductions?
- 答: a. 之所以不同公司排放不同的污染量才是有效率的,是因为不同公司减少污染物排放量的成本不同,如果要求所有的公司都排放相同排放量的话,有的公司污染物处理成本高,有的低,让低成本企业排放较多废弃物,高成本企业排放较多废弃物的话,就会在不减少社会总产出的条件下降低减排的总成本,从而提高社会的福利程度。
- b. 如果让所有公司都统一地减少污染数量的话,正如 a 中的分析一样,此时由于污染的负外部性,社会并没有达到最大化福利水平的排放量,企业也没有激励达到更多的排放量。
  - c. 缴纳 Pigou 税使得污染的社会成本等于其社会收益,从而减少了排放总量;而通过

交易污染排放权利,污染排放许可证会由污染处理成本低的企业向处理成本高的企业转移, 从而减少其污染物排放量。两者都达到了一个更有效率的结果。

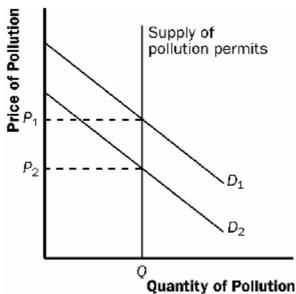
- 6. The Pristine River has two polluting firms on its banks. Acme Industrial and Creative Chemicals each dump 100 tons of glop the river each year. The cost of reducing glop emissions per ton equals \$10 for Acme and \$100 for Creative. The local government wants to reduce overall pollution from 200 tons to 50 tons.
- a. If the government knew the cost of reduction for each firm, what reductions would it impose to reach its overall goal? What would be the cost to each firm and the total cost to the firms together? b. In a more typical situation. The government would not know the cost of pollution reduction at each. If the government decided to reach its overall goal by imposing uniform reductions on the firms, calculate the reduction made by each firm, the cost of each firm, and the total cost to the firms together.
- c. Compare the total cost of pollution reduction in parts(a) and (b). If the government does not know the cost of reduction for each firm, is there still some way for it to reduce pollution to 50 tons at the total cost you calculated in part (a), Explain.
- 答: a. 如果政府知道每家厂商减少污染物排放量的不同成本,他会首先让减少排放成本比较低的企业减少排放。本例中,第一家公司成本比较低,因此政府首先会让其减少 100 吨的排放量,成本为 1000 美元。剩下的 50 吨政府这会让第二家公司再排放量,其成本为 5000 美元,而总成本这位 6000 美元。
- b. 如果两家企业减少相同污染物排放量的话,每家企业都会减少 75 吨的排放量。第一家企业的成本因此为 750 美元,而第二家企业的成本为 7500 美元,此时的总成本则为 8250 美元。
- c. 由上面的计算我们可以看出来,(a) 中的成本更低。在政府不知道每家企业各自减少污染排放的成本情况下,可以通过出售污染排放许可证来解决这个问题。这样减少污染排放成本高的企业就会购买许可证,成本低的企业则会出售许可证并减少自身的排放,最终达到更有效率的结果。
- 7. "A fine is a tax for doing something wrong. A tax is a fine for doing something right." Discuss.
- "罚款是对做某件错事的税收"在做错事的情况下,错事相对于你而言的私人成本小于其社会成本,存在负的外部性,故错事的发生数量大于其最优的社会数量,通过罚款则在一定程度上减少了这种外部性,降低了错事的发生数量。
- "税是对做某件正确事的罚款" 在做正确事的时候,这件事情相对你而言的私人成本等于你的收益,然而假如对你征税的话,它降低了你的私人收益,从而使得其收益和成本不相等,最终使得这种正确的事情的数量小于其最优的社会数量,所以我们说税收是对做正确的事情的一种罚款。
- 8. Figure 4 shows that for any given demand curve for the right to pollute, the government can achieve the same outcome either by setting a price with a Pigovian tax or by setting a quantity with pollution permits. Suppose there is a sharp improvement in the technology for controlling pollution.

- a. Using graphs similar to those in Figure 4, illustrate the effect of this development on the demand for pollution rights.
- b. What is the effect on the price and quantity of pollution under each regulatory system? Explain.



答: a. 如上图所示,由题意,当控制污染的技术进步以后,排放污染不同数量水平上的价格都会下降,从而使得最终的污染权需求会下降。

b. 在 pigou 税的管制下,如上图所示,由于 pigou 税是固定的,所以最终污染权的价格不会发生变化,而污染权的均衡数量则会下降;在污染许可证数量的管制措施下,如下图,我们从中可以看出,此时污染权价格会下降,然而其数量却不会发生变化,因为污染许可证的数量是固定的。



- 9. Suppose that the government decides to issue tradable permits for a certain form of pollution.
- a. Does it matter for economic efficiency whether the government distributes or auctions the permits? Does it matter in any other ways?
- b. If the government chooses to distribute the permits, does the allocation of permits among firms matter for efficiency? Does it matter in any other ways?

答: a 政府是通过分配还是拍卖污染权,这不会影响到经济效率,唯一不同的是这会影响到 政府的收入。其它的方式对效率也没有影响。

- b. 如果政府是选择分配许可证的话,许可证在公司中的分配对效率没有影响,它只影响分配的公平性。不同企业之间可以通过出售许可证来达到最有效率的结果,同时形成财富在不同企业之间的分配结果。其它的分配方式亦是如此。
- 10. The primary cause of global warming is carbon dioxide, which enters the atmosphere in varying amounts from different countries but is distributed equally around the globe within a year. In an article in *The Boston Globe* (July 3, 1990), Martin and Kathleen Feldstein argue that the correct approach to global warming is "not to ask individual countries to stabilize their emissions of carbon dioxide at current levels," as some have suggested. Instead, they argue that "carbon diode emissions should be reduced in countries where the costs are least, and the countries that bear that burden should be compensated by the rest of the world."
- a. Why is international cooperation necessary to reach an efficient outcome?
- b. Is it possible to devise a compensation scheme such that all countries would be better off than under a system of uniform emission reductions? Explain.
- 答: a. 正如我们在第六个练习题当中看到的那样,由于各个国家减少二氧化碳排放的成本不一样,在现在各个国家的稳定水平上,有的国家成本高一些,有的成本低一些,在排放量能够保持不变的情况下,减排成本高的国家可以多排放一些,成本低的国家可以少排放一些,从而促进世界总的福利水平。
  - b. 如我们在上问当中的分析,如果存在一种污染排放从减污成本低的国家向减污成本 高的国家转移的机制的话,所有国家的效率就有可能得到提高。由于污染负的外部 性,则可以通过对污染成本高的国家进行征税,再把这些税收补偿给那些减少了污 染的国家来达到。
- 11. (The problem is challenging.) There are three industrial firms in Happy Valley.

Firm	Initial Pollution level	Cost of Reducing Pollution by 1 Unit
В	80	25
C	50	10

The government wants to reduce pollution to 120 units, so it gives each firm 40 tradable pollution permits.

- a. Who sells permits and how many do they sell? Who buys permits and how many do they buy? Briefly explain why the sellers and buyers are each willing to do so. What is the total cost of pollution reduction in this situation?
- b. How much higher would the costs of pollution reduction be if the permits could not be trade?

答: a 由图中我们可以看出来,C 厂商减少一单位污染的成本最低,从而他会出卖 40 单位的污染许可证; A 厂商这时会保留自己 40 单位的许可证; 而 B 厂商由于每单位污染处理的成本最高,故他会购买 C 单位的 40 单位许可证。在这种情况下,减污的总成本就是: A 的成本 $\$20 \times 30 = \$600$ ,而 B 由于有 80 单位的许可证,故不必付出成本,C 的成本则为 $\$10 \times 50 = \$500$ .从而总成本为\$1,100。

b. 如果许可证不能够被交易的话,此时 A 需付出的减污成本为 $$20 \times 30 = $600,B$  的成本为 $$25 \times 40 = $1,000$ ,C 需要付出的成本为 $$10 \times 10 = $100$ ,从而总成本就为\$1,700。这个成本高于在污染权能够被交易下的成本。